embodiment encompassed within the scope of the invention is a peptide having the sequence Asp-Arg-Pro-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:31). AII(6-8), His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:14) and AII(4-8), Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:15) were also tested and found not to be effective.

Please replace the text at page 17 lines 1-7 with the following:

A particularly preferred subclass of the compounds of general formula II has the formula

R^2-R^3-Tyr-R^5-His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:16)

wherein R^2, R^3 and R^5 are as previously defined. Particularly preferred is angiotensin III of the formula Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:2). Other preferred compounds include peptides having the structures Arg-Val-Tyr-Gly-His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:17) and Arg-Val-Tyr-Ala-His-Pro-Phe (SEQ ID NO:18). The fragment AII(4-8) was ineffective in repeated tests; this is believed to be due to the exposed tyrosine on the N-terminus.

In the claims

Please cancel claims 2-6, 11-13, and 15-18

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An improved method for chemotherapy in a human patient, wherein the improvement comprises administering to the human chemotherapy patient an amount effective for treating or preventing chemotherapy side effects of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R^1-R^8 in the sequence of general formula I

R^1-R^2-R^3-R^4-R^5-R^6-R^7-R^8

wherein R^1 is Asp,

R^2 is Arg or D-Arg;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Leu, and norLeu;

R^4 is Tyr or $Tyr(PO_3)_2$;

R^5 is Ile;

R^6 is His;

R^7 is Pro; and

R^8 is Phe or is absent,

excluding sequences including R^4 as an N-terminal Tyr group;

and wherein the active agent is not SEQ ID NO:1.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence consists of at least four contiguous amino acids of groups R^1-R^8 in the sequence of general formula I.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence consists of at least five contiguous amino acids of groups R^1-R^8 in the sequence of general formula I.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence consists of at least six contiguous amino acids of groups R^1-R^8 in the sequence of general formula I.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence consists of at least seven contiguous amino acids of groups R^1-R^8 in the sequence of general formula I.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sequence consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the active agent is administered at a dosage of between 2.5 μg/kg/day and 100 μg/kg/day.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the active agent is administered at a dosage of between 10 μg/kg/day and75 μg/kg/day.

28. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising

a) an amount of the active agent of claim 1 sufficient to provide a dosage to a patient of between 2.5 μg/kg/day and100 μg/kg/day; and

b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 28 wherein the sequence consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

Please add the following new claims:

35. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is hematopoietic toxicity.

36. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is decreased mobilization of hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into the peripheral blood.

37. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is anemia.

38. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is myelosuppression.

39. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is pancytopenia.

40. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is thrombocytopenia.

41. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is neutropenia.

42. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is lymphopenia.

43. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is leukopenia.

44. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is stomatitis.

45. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is alopecia.

46. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is headache.

47. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the side effect is muscle pain.

Support for the amendments and new claims: